

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 02519 031316Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 MCE-00 EB-08 PM-05
SS-15 INR-10 L-03 INRE-00 /053 W
-----007173 031325Z /41
O 031027Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7869

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2519

STADIS//////////

FOR NEA/ARN DRAPER FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, ESTC, SY
SUBJECT: MINISTER OF INTERIOR'S REQUEST TO PURCHASE 200 COLT
REVOLVERS

REF: A) STATE 111218; B) DAMASCUS 2588

1. ASSUME REFTELS CROSSED. I HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO
RECONSIDER THIS MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE SINCE OUR DENIAL
IS SURE TO BE READ BY SYRIANS AS A POLITICAL SIGNAL. IN
ADDITION TO THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR'S PERSONAL INTEREST IN
THIS SALE EXPRESSED TO COMOFF MICHAUD MAY 2, BRIG. GEN.
AL-KHULI ALSO MENTIONED THE SUBJECT TO ME WHEN I CALLED
ON HIM LAST EVENING TO THANK HIM FOR SYRIAN COOPERATION IN
THE SENEGALESE UNIFIL AIRLIFT. GEN. DABBAGH IS OBVIOUSLY
VERY KEEN TO HAVE THESE GOLD-PLATEDIPRESENTATION COLTS FOR
USE AS GIFTS TO HIS COLLEAGUES AND COUNTERPARTS DURING THE
ARAB POLICE CONVENTION AND GAMES TO BE HELD HERE IN LESS
THAN TWO WEEKS TIME. THE SYRIANS HAVE APPARENTLY BOUGHT
SIMILAR ITEMS IN PAST.

2. TOO MANY SYRIANS CONTINUE TO VIEW AMBASSADOR
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MURPHY'S ABRUPT DEPARTURE AS A POLITICAL SIGNAL FROM THE
UNITED STATES WHICH WILL ONLY BE REINFORCED BY OUR
REJECTION OF THIS SALE OF COLT PRESENTATION PISTOLS.
UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT WISHES TO GIVE SUCH A SIGNAL TO
SYRIA AT THIS TIME (AND I SUBMIT IT IS NOT IN OUR INTEREST
TO DO SO) I RECOMMEND THAT THIS MC LICENSE BE APPROVED
AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.

PELLETREAU

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SMALL ARMS, AMMUNITION, MUNITIONS CONTROLS, EXPORT LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780188-0731
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780599/aaaadgfm.tel
Line Count: 63
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 294223a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 78 STATE 111218, 78 DAMASCUS 2588
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SAS ID: 2808811
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINISTER OF INTERIOR'S REQUEST TO PURCHASE 200 COLT REVOLVERS
TAGS: MILI, ESTC, SY
To: STATE
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Review Markings:
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